

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ralf Kuehner et al.

Application No.: 10/599,672

Confirmation No.: 2692

Filed: October 5, 2006

Art Unit: 3731

For: APPLIANCE FOR WATER-JET SURGERY

Examiner: J. C. Tanner

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurred first, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee (37 CFR 1.97(d)). Applicants hereby petition that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1), the reference listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 form was first cited in the enclosed Australian Office Action dated December 17, 2009 for corresponding Australian patent application No. 2005232370. The reference DE 19904640 cited in the Australian Office Action was previously disclosed in an IDS filed on October 5, 2006, and is not listed on the PTO/SB/08 form. The references US 5,916,197, US 4,820,272 and US 5,116,313 cited in the

Australian Office Action were previously cited by the Examiner during prosecution of this application (see PTO-892 forms dated April 22, 2009 and November 17, 2009) and are not listed on the PTO/SB/08 form.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicants have not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Please charge our Credit Card in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. E7900.2048/P2048.

Dated: January 14, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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